

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /118 W

----- 017211

R 252146Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 434

INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, PE, PA, PFOR

SUBJ: NEIGHBORS DROP IN FOR HOLIDAYS

REF: A) SANTIAGO 5734; B) SANTIAGO 5660

1. SUMMARY: FEATURED FOREIGN GUEST DURING CHILE'S INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS SEPT 18-19 WAS PARAGUAYAN PRES STROESSNER, ONLY HEAD OF STATE TO ATTEND. LESSER LIGHTS FROM ARGENTINA, PERU AND ECUADOR JOINED STROESSNER IN USUAL ROUND OF PROTOCOL CALLS, CEREMONIES, PARADES, SIGNING OF MINOR AGREEMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, AND EXCHANGES OF MUTUAL ADMIRATION, ALL WELL-COVERED IN PRESS. PROTOCOL AND CALM REIGNED: THERE WERE NO KNOWN SECURITY PROBLEMS, AND NOTHING NEW WAS SAID. END SUMMARY.

2. PARAGUAY: PRES STROESSNER ARRIVED SEPT 17. DURING VISIT HE EXPRESSED FAVORABLE VIEW OF CHILEAN CHANGE OF
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GOVERNMENT AND ADMIRATION FOR WORK OF JUNTA. GEN, PINOCHET

IN TURN STATED "PARAGUAY AND CHILE ARE LIVING EXAMPLE OF PERMANENT STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND DIGNITY OF MAN." PINOCHET NOTED THAT DURING UNIDAD POPULAR GOVT IN CHILE RELATIONS WITH PARAGUAY HAD COOLED, BUT THAT PINOCHET VISIT TO PARAGUAY IN MAY AND PRESENT VISIT OF STROESSNER HAD REBUILT TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP.

3. IN PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT 19 STROESSNER DEFERRED TO HIS FON MIN SAPENA PASTOR ON QUESTIONS ON CUBA AND DETAILS OF CHILEAN/PARAGUAYAN AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING VISIT. SAPENA SAID PARAGUAY WOULD NOT HAVE RELATIONS WITH CUBA WHILE LATTER CONTINUES TO INTERVENE IN AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, REGARDLESS OF WHAT OAS MIGHT DECIDE TO DO ABOUT CUBAN MEMBERSHIP IN THAT ORGANIZATION. EMPHASIZED THAT GOP IS NOT PREJUDICED AGAINST CUBA, HOWEVER, AND IMPLIED GOP ATTITUDE COULD CHANGE IF CUBAN INTERVENTION STOPPED.

4. SAPENA AND CHILEAN FONMIN CARVAJAL SIGNED SEVERAL DOCUMENTS SEPT 19 THAT HAVE NOT BEEN PUBLISHED BUT WHICH ARE SAID TO INCLUDE AGREEMENTS ON MUTUAL INVESTMENT, COMPLEMENTARY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, DUTY-FREE ZONE FOR CHILE AT PUERTO VILLETA IN PARAGUAY, AND "CLARIFICATION" OF CERTAIN TERMS OF 1963 ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT. GROUPS OF EXPERTS WILL BE NAMED TO DISCUSS VARIOUS MATTERS INCLUDING DEVELOPMENT OF ANTOFAGASTA - ASUNCION ROAD.

5. ON SEPT 20 STROESSNER AND PARTY FLEW TO ANTOFAGASTA, WHERE PRESIDENT "INSPECTED FACILITIES DESIGNATED FOR PARAGUAYAN FREE PORT USE" AND WENT FISHING. HE LEFT ANTOFAGASTA FOR ASUNCION SEPT 21.

6. STROESSNER WAS WELL-RECEIVED AND AS FAR AS EMBASSY AWARE THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OR PROBLEMS DURING HIS VISIT. LOCAL PRESS GAVE HIM HEAVY PLAY.

7. PERU: AIR MINISTER AND PERUVIAN AIR FORCE CINC GEN. REICADO GILARDI WAS GUEST OF CHILEAN AIR FORCE CINC AND JUNTA EMBER GUSTAVO LEIGH, RETURNING VISIT OF LEIGH TO PERU IN JUNE. GILARDI DELIVERED "PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRES. VELASCO" TO PINOCHET EXPRESSING DESIRE FOR STRENGTHENING OF TIES WITH GOC, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CORDIAL EMBRACE FOR PINOCHET, ETC. PINOCHET SENT MESSAGE BACK TO VELASCO THAT "HE HAS A FRIEND HERE IN CHILE."

8. GILARDI PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT 21 PRODUCED STATEMENT THAT "FOREIGN INTERESTS" WERE BEHIND CAMPAIGN TO CREATE TENSIONS BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU. WHEN ASKED, GILARDI REFUSED TO NAME COUNTRIES BUT SAID THEY WERE IN BOTH HEMISPHERES. ALSO ACCUSED COMMUNISTS, BOTH CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN, OF ORGANIZING PRESS

CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE TENSIONS, HE NOTED THAT PERU IS NOT AND WILL NOT BE COMMUNIST (NOR CAPITALIST); GOP IS "NATIONALIST, HUMANIST, AND CHRISTIAN." PRES. VELASCO'S ARMS LIMITATION PROPOSAL WAS PUSHED, AND GILARDI SAID PERU PURCHASED ARMS ONLY FOR MODERNIZATION. FIRMLY DENIED THERE ARE SOVIET TECHNICAL OR MILITARY MISSIONS, OR SOVIET BASES, IN PERU. PERU BOUGHT MIRAGE JETS BECAUSE US WOULD NOT SELL F-5. HE COMPLAINED THAT US ARMS POLICY FLUCTUATES, AND NOW US IS OFFERING F-5. ALSO TO CHILE. SUGGESTED US SHOULD OFFER "QUOTA" OF ARMS TO LATIN AMERICA, WITH VIEW OF DEVELOPING "CONTINENTAL DEFENSE."

9. RE CUBA, GILARDI SAID GOP FEELS INTER-AMERICAN UNION MUST INCLUDE ALL COUNTRIES OF REGION, BUT EACH COUNTRY MUST DECIDE FOR SELF ON MATTER. ON DECISION 24 AND ANDEAN PACT, GILARDI STATED THAT "IF GOODWILL EXISTS ON CHILEAN PART, IT IS POSSIBLE TO CHANGE SOME WORDS OF THE RULE."

10. ARGENTINA: DR. ALONSO SAVINO, MIN DEFENSE, LOOKED A BIT OUT OF PLACE IN THE THRONG OF UNIFORMS WHICH DOMINATED CEREMONIES. IN PRESS CONFERENCE SEPT 21 SAVINO SAID HE ENJOYED WORKING WITH MILITARY BECAUSE THEY MAKE PRECISE REPLIES AND OBEY ORDERS FULLY. HE PRAISED MILITARY IN GENERAL AS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN STRUGGLE OF SMALL COUNTRIES AGAINST BIG POWERS AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. CONSIDERABLE PART OF HIS REMARKS CONVEYED THEME OF STRUGGLE OF SMALL, RAW-MATERIAL PRODUCING COUNTRIES AGAINST EXPLOITATION AND DOMINANCE OF MAJOR POWERS.

11. ASKED ABOUT MRS. PERON, SAVINO NOTED THAT SHE HAD 18 YEARS OF PRIVATE INSTRUCTION FROM PERON AND HAD SAID SHE WOULD CARRY ON PERON'S POLICIES. HE SAID "WITHIN HER FRAGILE WOMAN'S FORM THERE IS TREMENDOUS CHARACTER." SAVINO SEEMED TO AVOID DIRECT PRAISE OF CHILEAN JUNTA, IN CONTRAST TO STROESSNER, CONFINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HIMSELF TO NOTING COMPLETE CALM AND SECURITY IN CHILE, AND PROBLEM OF ATTACKS FROM ULTRA-LEFT SHARED BY BOTH ARGENTINA AND CHILE. HE DESCRIBED ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES AS LOYAL TO IDEALS OF PERON AND FULFILLING THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL ROLE IN COM-BATTING TERRORISM.

12. ECUADOR: GENERAL STAFF CHIEF RAUL GONZALEZ ALVEAR AND PARTY WERE LOW MEN ON PUBLICITY TOTEM-POLE, GETTING BARE MENTION OF COURTESY CALL ON PINOCHET, ETC. MAIN IMPRESSION LEFT WAS OF EXCHANGES OF MEDALS WITH CHILEAN COUNTERPARTS.

13. COMMENT. NOTHING NEW, UNEXPECTED, OR PARTICULARLY INTERESTING CAME OUT OF VISITS. CEREMONIAL SCHEDULES PROCEEDED WITHOUT INCIDENT, AND PRESS PLAY, AS COULD BE EXPECTED, WAS ENTIRELY FAVORABLE TO VISITORS. CHILEANS AND PERUVIAN

DELEGATE CONTINUED NOW-CUSTOMARY EXCHANGES OF MUTUAL ESTEEM AND REASSURANCE, BUT WE SEE NO REAL CHANGE IN DEGREE OF TENSION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. IT IS ALSO PROBABLE THAT ALL VISITORS SHARED SAVINO'S OBVIOUS APPRECIATION OF ATMOSPHERE OF SECURITY AND CALM IN CHILE.
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